Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Biological Survey Circular No. 37.

United States Department of Agriculture.

REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF EGGS OF GAME BIRDS FOR PROPAGATION.

U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Office of the Secretary,
Washington, D. C., June 9, 1902.

An Act of Congress approved June 3, 1902, entitled "An Act to regulate the introduction of eggs of game birds for propagation," provides: "That from and after the passage of this Act the Secretary of Agriculture shall have the power to authorize the importation of eggs of game birds for purposes of propagation, and he shall prescribe all necessary rules and regulations governing the importation of eggs of said birds for such purposes." The object of this law is to modify the prohibition against the importation of eggs of game birds which has existed since August 28, 1894, by allowing the entry of eggs intended solely for purposes of propagation or for stocking game preserves with new or desirable birds.

In accordance with the authority vested in the Secretary of Agriculture, the following regulations are hereby prescribed:

(1) *Permits required.*—Permits will be required for all eggs of game birds imported under this Act.

(2) *Eggs admitted.*—Until further notice permits will be issued for eggs of the following game birds: The *Gallinæ*, commonly known as wild turkeys, grouse, capercailzie, pheasants, partridges, and quail; the *Otididæ*, commonly known as bustards; the *Rallidæ*, commonly known as rails and crakes; the *Anatidæ*, commonly known as swans, geese, and ducks; and the *Tinamidæ*, commonly known as tinamous.

(3) *Form of permits.*—Permits for the importation of eggs will be issued upon application in the same form and subject to the same general regulations as those now in force for foreign birds and animals (Circular No. 29, Biological Survey). Applications should state (1) the number of each kind of eggs to be imported, (2) the port of entry, (3) the date of arrival of the shipment, (4) the name and address of the owner or consignee, and (5) the purpose for which the importation is made. In order to avoid delay at the custom-house, the permit should be obtained in advance, so as to be in the hands of the collector of customs on arrival of the shipment. In case the permit is not at hand at the time of arrival, the importer will be allowed

a reasonable time in which to secure one; but if the permit be not produced at the expiration of the time designated, the eggs will be destroyed or returned at the expense of the owner or consignee.

(4) *Marking.*—All packages of eggs imported under this Act must be clearly marked "Eggs of game birds for propagation."

(5) *Inspection.*—Eggs, like other imported goods, are subject to inspection at the custom-house and should be carefully packed, so that they can be examined readily and without injury. Officers of the customs or of this Department can not be held responsible for any damage resulting from the examination of packages closed against inspection.

The Department reserves the right to modify the list of game birds without notice, to withhold permits for any shipment in whole or in part, or to cancel permits already issued if investigation shows that the contents of the packages or the purpose of importation are not in accordance with the statements in the application.

James Wilson

Secretary.